

ABSTRACT

The present invention provides a method of performing hot start PCR reactions. The method is based on sequestration of magnesium ions in the form of a precipitate which renders a DNA polymerase inactive until the appropriate time in the PCR reaction when a certain temperature is reached and the magnesium ions are released from the precipitate. Also provided are kits comprising reagents and instructions for amplifying a target nucleic acid by the magnesium precipitate hot start.

5

10

1007734 60602